

135
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light-receiving means for receiving the light reflected from the eye, for detecting the visual line thereof.--

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REMARKS

Claims 1-14 are presented for consideration, with Claims 1, 9 and 11 being independent. Claims 1-4 and 6-10 have been amended and Claims 11-14 are newly presented herein.

In view of the foregoing amendments and following remarks, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections set forth in the above-identified Office Action.

Initially, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner consider the documents cited in the Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement filed October 22, 1996, and indicate such consideration by initialling and returning the Form PTO-1449 provided therewith.

The title has been amended as requested by the Examiner. Further, certain idiomatic and spelling informalities have been resolved in the specification to place the application in the best possible form for the Examiner's consideration. Favorable consideration is requested.

Applicants note with appreciation the indication that Claims 2 and 5-9 recite allowable subject matter. These

claims were objected to for allegedly being dependent upon a rejected base claim. However, Claim 9 is, in fact, an independent claim and therefore, even though minor changes to form have been made to this claim, it is nevertheless believed to be in condition for allowance.

Claims 3, 4 and 10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite. Without conceding the propriety of this rejection, Applicants have reworded the language questioned by the Examiner. As to Claim 4, the definition of angle α has been clarified to reflect the description of such shown in Figures 7 and 12B. Favorable reconsideration and withdrawal of the § 112 rejection are requested.

Claim 1 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,006,072 (Letovsky et al.), 5,384,654 (Iba), 5,513,041 (Togino '041), 5,416,876 (Ansley et al.), 5,436,765 (Togino '765), 5,479,224 (Yasugaki et al.) or 5,483,307 (Anderson). These rejections are traversed.

As recited in independent Claim 1, the present invention relates to a display device including display means and optical means. The display means forms image information. The optical means guides light from the display means to the eye. The optical means includes a curved face for totally reflecting the light when an incident angle of the light is greater than a critical angle.

It is respectfully submitted that none of the citations of record disclose at least an optical means including a curved face for totally reflecting the light, which has been further defined herein as being when an incident angle of the light is greater than a critical angle.

For example, Letovsky et al. utilizes in a helmet parabolic mirrors 326, 348 and 350. However, one of ordinary skill in the art would readily recognize that these parabolic mirrors do not totally reflect the light when an incident angle of the light is greater than a critical angle, as is recited in independent Claim 1.

Thus, Letovsky et al. fails to disclose or suggest an important feature of the present invention recited in independent Claim 1.

The remaining citations are understood by Applicants to utilize a reflecting mirror whose surface is deposited with metal. Iba utilizes concave mirrors 44 and Togino '041 utilizes concave mirror 3. In the helmet display of Ansley et al., light is reflected from optical combiner 82. Togino '765 comprises a visual display apparatus including an ocular optical system 4. Yasugaki et al. utilizes a curved reflecting mirror 25 in a head-mounted display apparatus. Anderson teaches a head-mounted display utilizing reflector 18.

However, none of the above citations is believed to disclose or suggest optical means for guiding light from

display means to the eye, with the optical means including a curved face for totally reflecting the light when an incident angle of the light is greater than a critical angle, as is recited in independent Claim 1.

Thus, independent Claim 1 is patentable over the citations of record.

Newly presented independent Claim 11 is also believed to be patentable over these citations. Independent Claim 11 recites a display apparatus including display means and optical means. The display means forms image information. The optical means guides light of the display means to an eye. The optical means includes a concave mirror decentered with respect to an optical axis of the eye and has different optical powers according to an azimuth angle and another surface decentered with respect to the optical axis of the eye and having different optical powers according to an azimuth angle. A surface of the concave mirror and the other surface have optical powers having mutually different positive or negative power on a section of a meridian of each of the surfaces.

None of the citations discussed above, whether taken individually or in combination, disclose or suggest the above-noted features of the present invention recited in Claim 11.

Thus, independent Claim 11 is also patentable over the citations of record.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the § 102 rejections are requested.

For the foregoing reasons, Applicants submit that the present invention is patentably defined by independent Claims 1, 9 and 11. Dependent Claims 2-8, 10 and 12-14 are also allowable, in their own right, for defining features of the present invention in addition to those recited in their respective independent claims. Individual consideration of the dependent claims is requested.

Applicants submit that the instant application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration, withdrawal of the rejections set forth in the above-noted Office Action, and an early Notice of Allowance are requested.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 347-8100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,


Attorney for Applicants

Registration No. 33,628

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
277 Park Avenue
New York, New York 10172
Facsimile: (212) 758-2982

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